might be dimensions for Time, Configuration Element, Workload and Metric. In the source dataset, the Workload dimension may contain the attributes division, department, user, and transaction, ordered in this manner. Thus, the coordinate for this dimension would be division=25, department=MVXD, user=ABC, and transaction=_XX.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add new claims 24-27 as follows:

24. (New) A computer-based method of automatically navigating between data with dissimilar structures including a source dataset containing one or more data elements and a plurality of target datasets respectively containing one or more data elements, the method comprising the steps of:

determining one or more collections of data elements from the plurality of target datasets that best match a collection of data elements from the source dataset, the determination being based on the structures associated with the source dataset and the plurality of target datasets; and

computing one or more distance metrics between the one or more target collections and the source collection.

25. (New) The method of Claim 24, wherein the determining step further comprises the steps of:

generating one or more preliminary target collection descriptors associated with the one or more target collections by transforming a source collection descriptor associated with the source collection; and

removing constraints associated with the one or more preliminary target collection descriptors until a non-null element collection is obtained.

26. (New) Apparatus for automatically navigating between data with dissimilar structures including a source dataset containing one or more data elements and a plurality of target datasets respectively containing one or more data elements, the apparatus comprising:

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means for determining one or more collections of data elements from the plurality of target datasets that best match a collection of data elements from the source dataset, the determination being based on the structures associated with the source dataset and the plurality of target datasets; and

means for computing one or more distance metrics between the one or more target collections and the source collection.

27. (New) The apparatus of Claim 26, wherein the determining means further comprises:

means for generating one or more preliminary target collection descriptors associated with the one or more target collections by transforming a source collection descriptor associated with the source collection; and

means for removing constraints associated with the one or more preliminary target collection descriptors until a non-null element collection is obtained.

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